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Organizational session for 1995
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Extraordinary additional session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 1995

Administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decision of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1995/8)

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. Following its eleventh session, held from 21 November to 9 December 1994, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights transmitted to the Economic and Social Council a draft decision by which the Council would, on an exceptional basis, authorize the Committee to hold an extraordinary session of three weeks' duration in 1995 and a special five-day meeting of the Committee's pre-sessional working group, to be held immediately following the conclusion of the Committee's twelfth session, in order to prepare for the consideration of States parties' reports during the extraordinary additional session of the Committee (see E/1995/8). The Committee was provided with an oral statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decision, with an indication that a written statement would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council.

2. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights normally holds one three-week session towards the end of each year. A pre-sessional working group meets for one week approximately three to four months in advance of each

* E/1995/2.

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session. Travel and subsistence costs are paid to the 18 members of the Committee attending the annual session and to an average of 5 members participating in the pre-sessional working group. By its decision 1992/259, the Economic and Social Council authorized, on an exceptional basis, the holding of an extraordinary session of the Committee, of three weeks' duration, in 1993. Subsequently, the General Assembly, by its resolution 47/219, approved revised estimates in an amount of US$ 118,000 for the biennium 1992-1993 to cover the cost of that extraordinary session.

3. Should the Council adopt the draft decision referred to in paragraph 2 above, the dates of the meetings of the Committee and of its pre-sessional working group in 1995 would be as follows:

1-19 May 1995 - Twelfth session of the Committee;

22-26 May 1995 - Additional meeting of the pre-sessional working group;

20 November-8 December 1995 - Extraordinary additional session of the Committee (thirteenth session);

11-15 December 1995 - Meeting of the pre-sessional working group for the fourteenth session of the Committee, to be held in May 1996.

4. The estimated full cost for convening the additional meetings of the Committee and its pre-sessional working group would be as follows:

A. Substantive costs

		US dollars
(i)	Travel and subsistence of 18 members of the Committee attending the additional session (three weeks in Geneva)	129 700
(ii)	Subsistence of 5 members of the Committee attending the additional meeting of the pre-sessional working group (five days in Geneva)	8 400
	Total	138 100

B. Conference-servicing costs

	US dollars
(i) Additional session	
3 weeks: 30 meetings with interpretation (A,E,F,R,S) and summary records (E,F,S), 27 documents, 210 pages (A,E,F,R,S)	600 300
(ii) Pre-sessional working group	
5 days: 8 meetings with interpretation (E,F,R,S), 28 documents, 625 pages (E,F,R,S)	432 500
Total	1 032 800
Grand total	1 170 900

5. With regard to conference-servicing costs, the resources provided under section 25E (Conference services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 were estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings known at the time of the budget preparation but also meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1994-1995 were consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 25E of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 for conference-servicing of the extraordinary additional session of the Committee and the additional meeting of its pre-sessional working group.

6. With regard to substantive costs ($138,100), provision for travel and subsistence costs has been made in the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 under section 21 (Human rights) only for one annual session of the Committee and one annual meeting of the pre-sessional working group. At this stage, it is not anticipated that the additional costs of $138,100 could be absorbed within the overall resources appropriated under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

7. Should the Economic and Social Council approve the draft decision of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights contained in document E/1995/8, it is estimated that additional requirements of $138,100 would arise under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

8. Under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through redeployment of resources available from low-priority

areas or modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium.

9. No activity has been identified for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. Should it not prove possible to meet the costs required from the contingency fund, the implementation of the decision may have to be postponed, as provided for in the guidelines for the use and operation of the contingency fund adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 42/211.

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Agenda items 2 and 3

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL

Draft proposals submitted by the President and members of the Bureau on the basis of informal consultations held pursuant to paragraph 2 (1) of Council resolution 1988/77

DRAFT DECISION I

High-level segment of the Economic and Social Council of 1995

The Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolutions 47/92 of 16 December 1992 and 48/162 of 20 December 1993, decides that the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council of 1995 shall be devoted to the consideration of the following major theme:

DRAFT DECISION II

Coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council of 1995

The Economic and Social Council, reaffirming the provisions of section III, paragraphs (a) to (e), of its decision 1992/217, decides that the coordination segment shall be devoted to consideration of the following themes:

(a)

(b)

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DRAFT DECISION III

Proposed provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1995 of the Economic and Social Council

(26 June-28 July 1995)

The Economic and Social Council, having considered the proposed programme of work for 1995 and 1996, 1/ approves the following provisional agenda for the substantive session of 1995:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

2. [Theme/themes to be selected.]

Coordination segment

3. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

   (a)/(b) [Theme/themes to be selected];

   (c) Implementation of the agreed conclusions on the themes of the 1994 coordination segment of the Council.

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

4. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:

   (a) United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund;

   (b) United Nations Children's Fund;

   (c) World Food Programme;

   (d) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

General segment

5. Social, humanitarian and human rights questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

   (a) Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;

1/ E/1995/1 and Add.1.

(b) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

(c) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations;

(d) Human rights questions;

(e) Advancement of women;

(f) Social development questions;

(g) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

(h) Narcotic drugs;

(i) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

6. Economic and environmental questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

(a) Sustainable development;

(b) Trade and development;

(c) Food and agricultural development;

(d) Science and technology for development;

(e) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

(f) International migration and development;

(g) Human settlements;

(h) Environment;

(i) Desertification and drought;

(j) Transport of dangerous goods;

(k) Women in development;

(l) Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS);

(m) International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade;

(n) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

(o) Statistics;

(p) Energy;

(q) Public administration and development.

7. Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields.

8. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

9. Coordination questions:

(a) Reports of the coordination bodies;

(b) International cooperation in the field of information systems;

(c) Multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health;

(d) Preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera.

10. Non-governmental organizations.

11. United Nations University.

12. Programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields:

(a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

(b) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for the biennium 1996-1997.

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Reports brought to the attention of the Council

Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

DRAFT DECISION IV

Regional cooperation

The Economic and Social Council decides to consider at its substantive session of 1995, under the item entitled "Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields", in pursuance of Council resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982 and taking into account the joint recommendations made by the executive secretaries of the regional commissions pursuant to Council decision 1982/174, the question of interregional cooperation in social development: the

impact of international migration in countries of destination and countries of origin.

DRAFT DECISION V

Consideration of reports of intergovernmental bodies

A. Report of the Trade and Development Board

The Economic and Social Council decides to consider at its substantive session of 1995 the report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its forty-first session and to authorize the Secretary-General to transmit directly to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session the report of the Board on the first part of its forty-second session.

B. Reports of the Commission on Human Settlements and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The Council decides that, when reviewing at its substantive session of 1995 the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its fifteenth session and the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighteenth session, it will not consider new draft proposals, except for specific recommendations contained in those reports that require action by the Council and proposals on matters relating to the coordination aspects of the work of those bodies.

C. Report of the World Food Council

The Council decides to undertake at its substantive session of 1995 an in-depth review of the report of the World Food Council on the work of its nineteenth session, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/217 of 18 December 1984, and to submit recommendations thereon to the Assembly for consideration and action.

DRAFT DECISION VI

Basic programme of work of the Economic and Social Council for 1996

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following list of questions for inclusion in the programme of work for 1996:

A. High-level segment

[Item/items to be selected]

B. Coordination segment

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

(a) [Theme/themes to be selected]

(b) Implementation of the agreed conclusions of the themes of the 1995 coordination segment of the Council

C. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 47/199)

(a) United Nations Development Programme /United Nations Population Fund

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (General Assembly resolution 48/162)

(b) United Nations Children's Fund

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (General Assembly resolutions 802 (VIII) and 48/162)

(c) World Food Programme

Report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (General Assembly resolution 3404 (XXX))

D. General segment

Social, humanitarian and human rights questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

(a) Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Oral reports on special programmes of economic and humanitarian assistance

(b) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 48/91)

(c) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (Council resolution 2100 (LXIII)) 2/

(d) Human rights questions

Report of the Human Rights Committee (article 45 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights) 2/

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Council resolutions 1988 (LX) and 1985/17)

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex) 2/

Report of the Commission on Human Rights (Council resolutions 5 (I) and 9 (II))

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 48/141) 2/

Documentation for information

Reports submitted by States parties to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and by the specialized agencies

(e) Advancement of women

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women) 2/

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fortieth session (Council resolutions 11 (II) and 1147 (LXI))

Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (Council resolution 1998 (LX))

(f) Social development questions

No advance documentation expected.

2/ Submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

(g) Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its fifth session (Council resolution 1992/1)

(h) Narcotic drugs

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its thirty-ninth session (Council resolution 9 (I))

Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board (article 15 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, article 18 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 and article 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances)

Report of the Secretary-General on the biennial update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (General Assembly resolution 48/112, sect. IV) 2/

(i) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 2/

Economic and environmental questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions:

World Economic and Social Survey, 1996

(a) Sustainable development

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its fourth session (Council decision 1993/207)

(b) Trade and development

Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)) 2/

(c) Food and agriculture

Report of the World Food Council (General Assembly resolution 3348 (XXIX)) 3/

Report of the review and analysis of agrarian reform and rural development (Council decision 1981/185)

3/ Will be considered by the General Assembly in 1996.

(d) Natural resources

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its third session (Council decisions 1992/218 and 1993/302)

(e) Energy

Report of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development on its second session (Council decision 1992/218)

(f) Cultural development

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (General Assembly resolution 41/187) 2/

Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (Council decision 1979/1), including the report of the Secretary-General on a subject relating to interregional cooperation of common interest to all regions (Council resolution 1982/50 and decision 1982/174)

Summaries of the surveys of economic conditions in the five regions, prepared by the regional commissions (Council resolution 1724 (LIII))

Coordination questions

Reports of the coordination bodies

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-sixth session (Council resolution 2008 (LX))

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1996 (Council resolution 13 (III))

United Nations University

Report of the Council of the United Nations University for 1995 3/

Programme and related questions in the economic, social and related fields

Relevant chapters of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-sixth session

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Reports brought to the attention of the Council

Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

DRAFT DECISION VII

Commission on Population and Development and periodicity of its meetings

The Economic and Social Council, taking note of General Assembly resolution 49/128 of 19 December 1994, endorses the decisions of the Assembly in paragraphs 24 and 25 of that resolution that the Population Commission shall be renamed the Commission on Population and Development and that it shall meet on an annual basis.

DRAFT DECISION VIII

Dates of the fourth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council decides that the fourth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which was to have been held at Vienna in April for a period of 8 days, will be held from 30 May to 9 June 1995.

DRAFT DECISION IX

Dates of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 49/157 of 23 December 1994, decides that the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which was to have been held from 29 April to 10 May 1995, with two days for pre-Congress consultations, will be held from 28 April to 8 May 1995, with one day for pre-Congress consultations.

DRAFT DECISION X

Dates of the twelfth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

The Economic and Social Council decides that the twelfth meeting of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, which was to have been held at Headquarters from 28 August to 8 September 1995, will be held at Headquarters from 31 July to 11 August 1995.

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COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. George Papadatos (Greece), on the basis of informal consultations

Committee for Development Planning

The Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolutions 2084 (XX) and 2096 (XX) of 20 December 1965, 2564 (XXIV) of 13 December 1969, 44/212 of 22 December 1989 and 46/206 of 20 December 1991 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1035 (XXXVII) of 15 August 1964, 1079 (XXXIX) of 28 July 1965, 1089 (XXXIX) of 31 July 1965 and 1625 (LI) of 30 July 1971, by which the Committee for Development Planning was established and entrusted with, inter alia, a broad mandate to assess world development trends and prospects, decides:

(a) To request the Secretary-General to submit nominations to the Council at its resumed organizational session in May 1995 or, at the latest, at its substantive session in 1995, for reconstitution of the membership of the Committee for Development Planning and to reconvene the reconstituted Committee before the end of 1995. In making the nominations, after consultations with interested Governments, the Secretary-General is requested to take into account the need for balanced representation and the diversity of issues dealt with by the Council and the General Assembly in the economic, social, environment and related fields;

(b) To request the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the Council at its substantive session in 1995, to enable it to review the working methods of the Committee in line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993;

(c) That the Committee should examine its working procedures with a view to improving them, in particular to reflect the ongoing work of the Council and the General Assembly and their subsidiary bodies;

(d) That the Committee should continue its work, in particular with regard to issues relating to the least developed countries;

(e) That the Chairperson of the Committee will address the Council on the major findings and conclusions of the Committee, starting in 1996.